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CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

—OF THE—

Worcester Society of Antiquity;

ADOPTED FEB. 13, 1875;
AMENDED MAY 4, 1875; REVISED JAN. 2, 1877;
AMENDED JUNE 3, 1879;

TOGETHER WITH THE

Certificate of Incorporation.

WORCESTER:
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY,
1879.
U. S. A. CIII.

Worcester historical society, Worcester, Mass.

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L. BRIGGS 11,345 JAN 3 1880

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"Litera scripta manet."

WORCESTER:
PRESS OF CLARK JILLSON,
1879.
U. S. A. CIII.

[No. 645.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Be it known, That whereas Samuel Elias Staples, Clark Jillson, Ellery B. Crane, Daniel Seagrave, Franklin Pierce Rice, James Andrew Smith, Albert Alfonzo Lovell and Albert Tyler, have associated themselves with the intention of forming a corporation under the name of **The Worcester Society of Antiquity**, for the purpose of cultivating and encouraging among its members a love and admiration for antiquarian research and archæological science; and so far as practicable, to rescue from oblivion any historical matter that might otherwise be lost; also, the collection and preservation of antiquarian relics of every description, with a capital of an amount not yet established, nor divided into shares, and have complied with the provisions of the Statutes of this Commonwealth in such case made and provided, as appears from the certificate of the President, Treasurer, and Directors of said corporation duly approved by the Commissioner of Corporations, and recorded in this office:

Now, Therefore, I Henry B. Peirce, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby certify, that said S. E. Staples, C. Jillson, E. B. Crane, D. Seagrave, F. P. Rice, J. A. Smith, A. A. Lovell and A. Tyler, their associates and successors, are legally organized and established as and are hereby made an existing corporation, under the name of The Worcester Society of Antiquity, with the powers, rights and privileges, and subject to the limitations, duties and restrictions, which by law appertain thereto.

Witness my official signature hereunto subscribed,
(L. S.) and the seal of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts hereunto affixed this twenty-second day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven.

HENRY B. PEIRCE,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

CONSTITUTION.

(As amended June 3, 1879.)

ARTICLE I.

NAME.

This Society shall be called The Worcester Society of Antiquity.

ARTICLE II.

OBJECT.

The purposes of this Society shall be:

1. To cultivate and encourage among its members a love and admiration for antiquarian research and archæological science; and, so far as possible, to rescue from oblivion any historical matter that might otherwise be lost.

2. The collection and preservation of antique relics of every description.

ARTICLE III.

OFFICERS.

The officers of this Society shall consist of a President, two Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer and Librarian. Each officer shall be elected by ballot, and only one officer shall be balloted for at the same time. A majority of the ballots shall be sufficient to elect. They shall hold office for the term of one year, and until their successors are chosen.

ARTICLE IV.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

1. *President.* It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings, when present. In his absence the First Vice President shall preside; in the absence of the latter, the Second Vice President shall preside; and in the absence of all three, a President *pro tem.* shall be chosen.

2. *Secretary.* It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a record of all meetings of the Society in a book provided for that purpose; to issue all notices of meetings, with the time and place of same; to conduct the general correspondence of the Society; shall notify all persons of their election as members of the Society; shall notify all members elected to office who were not present at the time of their election, within ten days thereafter; and at the expiration of his term of office shall turn over to his successor all books and papers in his possession belonging to the Society.

3. *Treasurer.* The Treasurer shall be sole custodian of the

funds of the Society, and of all property or titles to property, real or personal, belonging to the Society, except such as is otherwise provided for. He shall assess and collect all dues and taxes voted by the Society, receive any legacies bequeathed or donations made to its funds; shall disburse the moneys so received and collected, on a written order signed by the President and Secretary, but not otherwise. He shall keep in a book provided for the purpose a true account of all receipts and disbursements; shall submit the same to the inspection of any member when the request is made; shall submit in writing a report of all his receipts and disbursements for the year, and exhibit his vouchers for the same at each annual meeting; shall furnish a bond for the faithful discharge of his duties, whenever the Society, by a vote, may so direct; and shall, at the expiration of his term of office, place in the hands of his successor all books papers and other property in his possession belonging to the Society.

4. *Librarian.* The Librarian shall be the sole custodian of books, pamphlets, relics, coins, medals, engravings and other collections belonging to the Society; shall catalogue the same in a book kept for the purpose; shall have the care of the entire collection, together with the room in which they are kept, and shall report the condition of the same at each annual meeting.

ARTICLE V.

COMMITTEES.

1. The President, First and Second Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer shall constitute a committee of five, to be known as the Executive committee, who shall have in charge the general interest of the Society; shall prepare for press and have the care

of all publications of the Society, unless by a vote the Society see fit, when desirable, to elect a special committee for that purpose; may prepare and present business; may solicit and secure, when practicable, donations to the Society's funds, or collections; shall see that the orders of the Society are promptly carried out, and that the provisions of this Constitution are studiously maintained.

2. This Society shall, at its annual meeting in January, 1877, elect by ballot three persons—one to serve for one year, one for two years, and one for three years—and one for three years at each annual meeting succeeding—who shall be called the Standing Committee on Nominations. It shall be their duty to examine the qualifications of every person proposed for membership, and to put in nomination such persons as they in their judgment think will promote the interests of the Society. Other Committees may be chosen, as occasion requires, but all committees shall report their doings in writing.

ARTICLE VI.

MEMBERS.

1. The name and qualifications for membership of any person of good moral character, having an interest in the objects of this Society, may be presented at any meeting thereof and referred to the Standing Committee on Nominations; and such person may, at the next regular meeting, on nomination by said committee, be elected by a two-thirds ballot of those present. But no person shall be considered a member of this Society until he has signed the Constitution and paid into the Treasury the sum of two dollars.

ARTICLE VII.

HONORARY AND CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

Honorary and Corresponding members may be proposed and elected in the same manner as prescribed for active members; but corresponding members shall not be residents of the city of Worcester.

ARTICLE VIII.

DUTIES OF MEMBERS.

It shall be the duty of each member to fill any office or perform any service to which he may be elected or appointed; to endeavor to secure for the Society whatever he can that will add to the number or value of its collections; to bring it to the knowledge and consideration of persons of similar tastes and pursuits; to propose for membership such persons as are known to be interested in its work.

2. It shall be the duty of Honorary and Corresponding members to endeavor to secure articles for its collection, and to interest themselves for its honor and prosperity. Honorary members are expected to correspond with the Society at least once a year; Corresponding members, twice a year, and both Honorary and Corresponding members shall be entitled to all the privileges of active members, except the right to vote or hold office, and shall be exempt from the admission fee and all assessments.

ARTICLE IX.

MEETINGS.

The annual meeting for the election of officers and the transaction of other business, shall be held on the first Tuesday in

December of each year, at which time the several annual reports from officers and departments shall be submitted to the Society. The newly elected officers shall not, however, assume their official duties until the first Tuesday in the month of January following. The other regular meetings shall be held on the first Tuesday of each of the remaining months in the year, excepting August. Special meetings may be called by the President, or upon the written request of any three members of the Society. Five members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE X.

ASSESSMENTS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

1. *Tax.* The Society may at any regular meeting, by a vote, assess a tax upon its members, not exceeding one dollar *per capita*; but at any annual meeting the Society may assess such sum as may be needed for carrying on the affairs of the Society.

2. *Life Membership.* Any member who shall at any one time pay into the treasury the sum of twenty-five dollars shall be a life member, and shall thereafter be exempt from all assessments.

3. *Claims.* All claims against the Society shall be approved by the member contracting the same, and paid by the Treasurer, on a written order signed by the President and Secretary.

ARTICLE XI.

FAILURES, WITHDRAWALS, EXPULSIONS.

1. Any member who for two consecutive years shall fail to pay any assessment made in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution, and shall give no satisfactory reason therefor, shall cease to be a member of the Society, and the Treasurer shall notify the Secretary, who shall make record of the fact.

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Withdrawals. Any member may withdraw from the Society by giving notice of his intention to the Secretary and paying all assessments due at the time of giving such notice, and the Secretary shall make record of the fact.

3. *Expulsions.* Any member may, for any breach of trust or malfeasance in office, or for any other cause, be expelled from the Society by a vote of two-thirds of those present at any regular meeting; *Provided*, that the number present shall not be less than a majority of the whole number of active members.—But no member shall be expelled from the Society without first having an opportunity to explain his case at some regular meeting.

ARTICLE XII.

AMENDMENTS.

Alterations or amendments to the Constitution may be made at any regular meeting, by a two-thirds vote; *provided*, that a notice of the proposed change has been given in writing at some previous meeting.

ARTICLE XIII.

On the adoption of the foregoing Constitution, all other articles previously used for the government of this Society are hereby repealed.

THE WORCESTER SOCIETY OF ANTIQUITY
INSTITUTED JANUARY 1875
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ARCHÆOLOGIA
LITERÆ SCRIPTÆ MANENT

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